



MICHIGAN ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

GameVibes: Vibration-based Crowd Monitoring for Sports Games through Audience-Game-Facility Association Modeling

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Zo Vic

- Summary
- It should include a short summary and then explore the area of the paper. To help you prepare going forward, here are a few questions you can consider including.
- What are major companies that supply products (e.g. software, hardware, etc.) or services (e.g. cloud services like Amazon EC2, training, etc.) relevant to this course topic? Are these well-established companies or startups? Who are the primary customers: individual users, small businesses, large enterprises, etc.? Briefly describe these goods and services.

Isaac

- How is the marketplace segmented? What is the basis of the segmentation? In each segment, which are the major and minor players?
- What is the business model? How do the companies make money? What are the major costs involved? Do these business models trigger any significant policy issues (e.g. privacy)?
- What are the major standards in this arena? Are these official standards or informal standards that have evolved?

Kunal

- Are there capabilities discussed in the research papers for this topic that are missing from the marketplace? What might be the reasons for this gap?
- Does commercial practice reveal important unaddressed research topics? Why have these topics not been investigated?
- Are there significant unmet needs in this space? Why have these needs remained unmet?

Summary - The Problem

Core Problem:

Current crowd monitoring systems in large public venues (stadiums, arenas) fail to balance **accuracy, cost, and privacy**.



Summary - Why is it important

Safety: Prevent disasters like stampedes and riots (e.g., Kanjuruhan Stadium, Seoul Halloween Stampede).

Security: Detect risky crowd dynamics or unusual movement.

Experience: Understand audience engagement and reactions.

Operations: Optimize gate usage, staffing, and facility management.

Summary - Existing Solutions

Method	Pros	Cons
Manual Observation	Direct, human judgment	Costly, delayed, inconsistent
Video / Audio Systems	High accuracy	Privacy concerns, data overload
WiFi / RF Tracking	Wide coverage	Noisy, inconsistent signals
Wearables / Apps	Individual accuracy	Poor scalability
Questionnaires	Social/behavioral insights	Not real-time

Summary - GameVibes Approach

Core Idea:

Use **floor-mounted vibration sensors** + **contextual modeling** to infer crowd reactions and traffic.

Key Components:

1. **Game Associations (Temporal Context):**
 - Link reactions (clapping, stomping) to **game progress**.
2. **Facility Associations (Spatial Context):**
 - Link traffic flow to **layout features** (doors, food stands).
3. **Neural Network Encoders:**
 - Model the features and relationships within the data to estimate crowd behaviors.



Summary - Why It's Better

1. **Privacy-Friendly:** No images or sound collected.
2. **Low-Cost & Scalable:** Uses inexpensive vibration sensors.
3. **Context-Aware:** Models *why* vibrations happen, not just *when*.
4. **Robust:** Works across different venues and sensor locations.

Results (Stanford Maples Pavilion):

- 0.9 **F1 Score** (crowd reaction detection)
- 9.3 **Mean Absolute Error** (traffic estimation)
- ~**10–12%** increased accuracy improvement vs. baselines.

Industry Ecosystem

Established Companies:

- **Bosch:** Manufactures IoT and vibration sensors; smart infrastructure analytics.
- **Honeywell:** Building automation, safety systems, and industrial monitoring.
- **Siemens Smart Infrastructure:** Occupancy, motion, and structural sensing for large venues.

Startups:

- **Density.io:** Radar-based, anonymous people-counting sensors for buildings and arenas.

Potential Primary Customers

Large Enterprises:

Stadiums, airports, factories: Operate large facilities needing real-time crowd and safety management systems.

Government / Smart City Planners:

Manage public safety, traffic flow, and smart infrastructure using integrated sensing and analytics.

Event Organizers:

Sports leagues, concerts, and festivals: Use crowd analytics to ensure safety and enhance audience experience.

Market Segmentation: “How is the marketplace segmented?”

By sensing modality & data source



By buyer



By value proposition



Basis of Segmentation: “What’s the basis?”

Privacy sensitivity



Coverage &
granularity

Cost &
deployability



Robustness in
noise / crowds

Context integration



Players by Segment: “Major players?”



Video analytics



Wearables / ticketing

Hybrid ops data



Wi-Fi / RF analytics



Audio analytics

Infrastructure vibration



Business Models: “How do companies make money? Major costs?”






Revenue models

- Hardware + install
- Software licensing / SaaS
- Data services
- Systems integration / support

Cost drivers

- Hardware CapEx
- Ops OpEx
- Labeling & ground truth collection
- Model development & tuning

Policy & Risk: “Do models trigger policy issues (e.g., privacy)?”

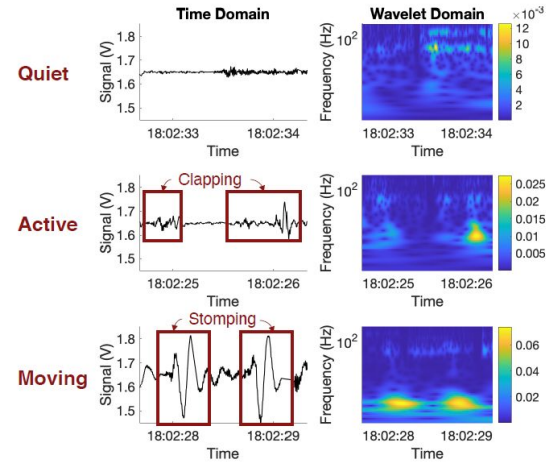
Risk Area	Severity	What It Means	Mitigation
Privacy & Transparency	 Low	No faces/voices captured, but venue must disclose monitoring.	Post clear signage and publish data-use policy.
Data Governance	 Medium	Data could be repurposed if not controlled.	Use retention limits and defined access roles.
Safety & Liability	 High	Alerts imply responsibility to respond.	Define escalation procedures and alert thresholds.
Bias & Fairness	 Medium	Models must work across crowd types & layouts.	Validate performance across varied events.
Cybersecurity	 Medium	Mesh networks must be protected.	Encrypt traffic and segment networks.

Privacy vs. Life??

CCTV or Person Monitoring



Floor vibration Monitoring



The Market Reality

Current Products

- Stadiums deploy AI cameras (e.g., NEC, SAFR) despite privacy pushback
 - Sporting Kansas City facilities
 - UEFA Super Cup Final 2020
- Surveillance acceptance rises *only after* tragedies (e.g., Seoul 2022, Kanjuruhan 2022)

**These commercial tools save lives but sacrifice privacy, What if we didn't have to choose??

Why Market Adoption Lags Behind Research

Barrier

Explanation



Structural variability

Stadium floors differ; hard to generalize models



Limited datasets

Few long-term, multi-venue vibration datasets



ROI uncertainty

Hard to prove cost-benefit to venue operators



Liability & inertia

Safety tech adoption moves slowly due to regulation

Video Surveillance: Legal but Limited - The Smart Monitoring Gap

- Regulatory Restrictions on AI Features
 - Facial recognition: Banned (EU, 20+ US cities) or requires consent (Illinois, California)
 - Emotion detection: Banned in EU for most uses
- Privacy Perception & Reputational Risk
 - Madison Square Garden facial recognition scandal (2022)
 - Taylor Swift concert facial recognition outrage (2018)

AMERICA RECKONS WITH RACIAL INJUSTICE

Boston Lawmakers Vote To Ban Use Of Facial Recognition Technology By The City

JUNE 24, 2020 · 7:05 PM ET

By Ally Jarmanning

FROM **wbur**



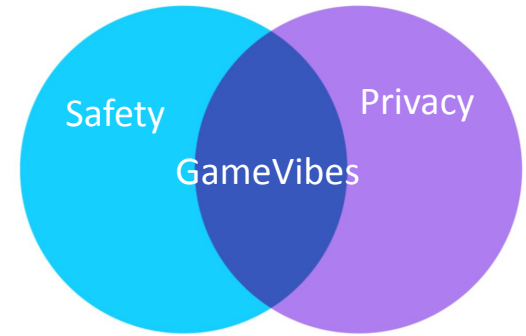
Crowd Monitoring WITHOUT the Regulatory Risk

EU alone:

- 27 countries
- ~300-500 stadiums per major country (Germany, France, UK, Italy, Spain)

US privacy-strict cities:

- 20+ cities with facial recognition bans
- Average 50-100 venues per city (including high schools, colleges, pro)



Thank You!

Any Questions?

(Don't worry you are not being recorded)